

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KABUL 03733 091023Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 PC-01 AID-05 OMB-01 /097 W
-----049408 091030Z /14

P R 090740Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7900
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3733

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PK, AF
SUBJECT: FIRST OFFICIAL PAKISTANI CONTACT WITH THE NEW
AFGHAN REGIME

1. TANVIR AHMAD KHAN, DCM OF THE PAKISTAN EMBASSY, HAS RECENTLY DESCRIBED TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER THE INITIAL MEETING OF PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR ALI ARSHAD WITH AFGHANISTAN'S NEW PRIME MINISTER, NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI, ON MAY 5, THE DAY PAKISTAN ANNOUNCED ITS RECOGNITION OF THE NEW DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN (DRA). ACCORDING TO THE DCM'S ACCOUNT, TARAKI GREETED ARSHAD WITH A CHUCKLE, SAYING "WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG? WERE YOU WAITING FOR A COUNTERCOUP?"

2. WHEN ARSHAD ASKED TARAKI POINT BLANK WHETHER HE WAS A COMMUNIST, THE AFGHAN LEADER REPLIED RHETORICALLY: "MY ONLY INTEREST IS TO FEED MY PEOPLE, TO CLOTHE THEM, AND TO SHELTER THEM. IF THAT IS COMMUNISM, THEN I MUST BE A COMMUNIST. ON THE OTHER HAND, DOESN'T ISLAM INVOLVE THE SAME CONCERNS?" WHEN ARSHAD AGREED THAT ISLAM INDEED DOES, TARAKI EXCLAIMED, "WELL, THEN, I MUST BE A MUSLIM."

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KABUL 03733 091023Z

3. TARAKI ASSURED ARSHAD THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS INTERESTED IN PRESERVING A FRIENDLY, PEACEFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH PAKISTAN. IN SPITE OF THIS ASSURANCE, OBSERVED TANVIR AHMAD KAHN, HIS EMBASSY HAD BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE SEVERAL MESSAGES OF CONGRATULATIONS THE DRA HAS BEEN ANNOUNCING THAT IT IS RECEIVING FROM TRIBES THROUGHOUT "PUSHTUNISTAN" (I.E., THOSE PUSHTUN

AREAS ON THE PAKISTANI SIDE OF THE DURAND LINE). HE NOTED IN PARTICULAR RECENT KABUL MEDIA REFERENCES TO SPECIFIC AFGHAN POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF THAT REGION, SUCH AS "NORTH PUSHTUNISTAN" -- TERMINOLOGY THAT THE AFGHANS HAVE NOT USED SINCE FORMER AFGHAN PRESIDENT MOHAMMAD DAOUD AND FORMER PAKISTANI ZULFIQAR ALI BHUTTO COMMENCED THEIR DETENTE IN 1976.
ELIOT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KABUL03733
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780196-0006
Format: TEL
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780580/aaaacprm.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c89b2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2754199
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST OFFICIAL PAKISTANI CONTACT WITH THE NEW AFGHAN REGIME
TAGS: PEPR, PK, AF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c89b2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014